

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

BIB-01 ERDA-05 H-02 OIC-02 SAM-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /072 W

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R 251400Z APR 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1402

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

ALL NATO CAPITALS 5255

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 2292

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ MARR, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: DPC MEETING APRIL 23, 1975: TO RECEIVE US BRIEFING ON
MANPOWER

ASPECTS OF NUNN AMENDMENT

REF: A. STATE 28858

B. STATE 73841

C. STATE 32846

SUMMARY: A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DPC CONVENED ON APRIL 23
TO RECEIVE US BRIEFING ON MANPOWER ASPECTS OF THE NUNN AMEND-
MENT, BY MR. ROBERT MURRAY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (M&RA). THE BRIEFING WAS WELL RECEIVED AND
PERMREPS ASKED A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS. OF NOTE, AMB
MENZIES (CANADA) ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY COMPARATIVE FIGURES
OF NATO FORCES COMBAT TO SUPPORT RATIO. MURRAY REPLIED THAT
DEFINITIONS OF SUCH RATIOS VARIED AND EXPLAINED THE DEFINITIONS
ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS ON THE NUNN AMENDMENT. AMB PECK(UK)
ASKED ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF THE SUPPORT REDUCTIONS ON US

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FORCES IN EUROPE AND WHETHER REFORGER EXERCISES WOULD BE
CARRIED OUT IN LIGHT OF ADDED COMBAT BRIGADES. MURRAY REPLIED
THAT THE US WAS WATCHING CLOSELY TO ENSURE THAT WE MAINTAINED

THE PROPER MIS IN FY 1976 CONVERSION OF SUPPORT TO COMBAT FORCES AND THAT PLANNING FOR REFORGER 75 WAS WELL UNDER WAY. ACTING SYG PANSAL THANKED MURRAY FOR THE EXCELLENT BRIEFING AND NOTED THAT IT WAS REFRESHING TO HEAR ABOUT COMBAT INCREASES IN NATO INSTEAD OF COMBAT DECREASES. END OF SUMMARY.

1. IN HIS REMARKS INTRODUCING THE US BRIEFING TEAM, PANSAL REMINDED PERMREPS OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S RECENT LETTERS (REFS A AND B) WHICH OUTLINED ACTIONS TO IMPROVE US COMBAT CAPABILITY IN EUROPE AND SECDEF'S OFFER TO BRIEF BOTH THE DPC AND MC ON ACTIONS ON THE CONVERSION OF SUPPORT TROOPS TO COMBAT FORCES AS REQUIRED UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAD SUGGESTED (REF A) THAT FOLLOWING THESE BRIEFINGS THE US WOULD WELCOME THE CONSIDERED VIEWS OF SACEUR, MC AND DPC ON THE US PROPOSALS. PANSAL INFORMED THE DPC THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE HAD RECEIVED THE BRIEFING ON APRIL 22 AND, AFTER THE BRIEFING, HAD INVITED SACEUR TO COMMENT AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE ON THE US PROPOSALS FOR THE CONVERSION OF US SUPPORT FORCES IN EUROPE TO COMBAT FORCES.

2. AT APRIL 23 DPC MEETING, MR. MURRAY GAVE EXCELLENT BRIEFING ON U.S. ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS TO STREAMLINE POSTURE OF U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE UNDER THE MANPOWER ASPECTS OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT. MURRAY'S WELL-RECEIVED PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTED: (1) SIGNIFICANT U.S. ONGOING ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE COMBAT READINESS OF U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE; (2) U.S. PLANS AND PROPOSALS FOR CONVERTING 18,000 SUPPORT SPACES TO COMBAT SPACES; (3) DETAILS FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE FY 1975 BRIGADE TO THE THREE MAJOR TRAINING AREAS IN GERMANY; (4) PROPOSALS FOR DEPLOYING FY 1976 BRIGADE; AND (5) THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COMBAT INCREASES AND U.S. OBLIGATIONS IN MBFR. IN HIS CONCLUDING REMARKS, MURRAY EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR INCREASED NATO COOPERATION IN LOGISTICS, NATO TRAINING AND STANDARDIZATION. HE ALSO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF ALLIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ALLIANCE AND THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THEIR OWN FORCES TO HELP ACHIEVE A CONVENTIONAL BALANCE IN EUROPE.

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3. PANSAL THANKED MURRAY FOR THE EXCELLENT PRESENTATION AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR US EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE COMBAT CAPABILITY OF US FORCES IN EUROPE. HE SAID THAT THE DPC WOULD TAKE NOTE OF MURRAY'S CONCLUDING REMARKS.

4. MENZIES (CANADA) ASKED MURRAY IF HE HAD ANY COMPARATIVE FIGURES SHOWING THE SUPPORT TO COMBAT RATIO OF NATO FORCES. MURRAY REPLIED THAT THERE ARE NUMEROUS DEFINITIONS ON WHAT COULD BE CONSIDERED COMBAT FORCES AND SUPPORT FORCES. MURRAY SAID THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY AGREED NATO DEFINITION ON THE RATIO OF SUPPORT TO COMBAT FORCES BUT WOULD BE

SLIGHTLY OVER ONE COMBAT TO ONE SUPPORT AND ONE COMBAT TO TWO SUPPORT FOR THE AIR FORCE.

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5. MENZIES ASKED WHETHER THE PROPOSED SUPPORT REDUCTIONS INDICATE A CHANGE OF PHILOSOPHY CONCERNING THE FIRST 30 DAYS OF COMBAT. MURRAY REPLIED THAT US IS MAINTAINING CLOSE SCRUTINY ON THE PROPOSED REDUCTIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE RATIO OF COMBAT TO SUPPORT IS THE MOST EFFICIENT MIX TO PERFORM ASSIGNED MISSIONS. HE SAID THAT THERE WAS A CHANGE IN ATTITUDE IN THAT WE NOW COUNT ON OUR ALLIES TO ASSIST US FORCES. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WERE DEFINITE LIMITS IN THE NUMBER OF SUPPORT FORCES WHICH CAN BE REDUCED AND WE ARE WATCHING THIS ASPECT VERY CAREFULLY. AMB PECK (UK) SAID THAT THE US RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM WAS A REFRESHING CHANGE WHEN COMPARED TO WHAT IS TAKING PLACE IN SOME OTHER NATO FORCES. HE ASKED IF THE TWO NEW COMBAT BRIGADES WOULD USE REFORGER EQUIPMENT AND WHAT WOULD BE THE FUTURE STATUS OF REFORGER EXERCISES. MURRAY REPLIED THAT THESE BRIGADES WOULD DRAW FROM REFORGER EQUIPMENT AND THERE IS NO DATE ESTABLISHED AS TO WHEN THESE STOCKS WOULD BE REPLENISHED. MAJ BEN MCAULIFFE (ISA) ANSWERED QUESTION ON FUTURE REFORGER EXERCISES BY STATING THAT US INTENDS TO CONDUCT REFORGER 75 ON SCHEDULE (REF C).

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6. PECK ASKED WHETHER THE PROPOSED SUPPORT REDUCTIONS WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON CAPABILITY OF US FORCES IN EUROPE. MURRAY SAID THAT THE US THOUGHT THE MIX OF SUPPORT TO COMBAT WAS RIGHT BUT THAT WE WILL EXAMINE THIS CLOSELY WHEN CONSIDERING FY 1976 REDUCTIONS.

7. AMB DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) SAID THAT HE NOTICED IN ONE OF THE SLIDES THAT THE US INTENDS TO REDUCE TOTAL STRENGTH IN EUROPE BY 4,000 AND ASKED IF THIS WOULD AFFECT MBFR. MURRAY EXPLAINED THAT WHILE THE US HAS IDENTIFIED A TOTAL REDUCTION OF 18,000 SUPPORT SPACES, ONLY 13,300 COMBAT INCREASES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED TO DATE. THIS LATTER FIGURE WILL INCREASE AS OUR PLANS FOR FY 1976 BECOME MORE DEFINITE. MURRAY EMPHASIZED THAT THE US IS COMMITTED TO MAINTAIN TOTAL OVERALL PERSONNEL STRENGTH IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA PENDING MBFR.

8. PANSA THANKED AMB BRUCE FOR ARRANGING THE BRIEFING AND MARRAY FOR HIS PRESENTATION. HE APOLOGIZED FOR ANY INCONVENIENCES CAUSED BY THE CHANGE OF SCHEDULE. COMMENT: THE BRIEFING WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR 1130 BUT POSTPONED UNTIL 1630 BECAUSE OF A LENGTHY NAC DISCUSSION. THEREFORE ARRANGEMENTS FOR BRIEFING SHAPE HAD TO BE CANCELLED. END COMMENT. BRUCE

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